

Mon Jun 26 11:05:45 EDT 2017  
Hope.Brian@epamail.epa.gov  
FW: Effects of Dumping of Sludge in Dunbar Community by the City of Fort Myers, FL  
To: CMS.OEX@epamail.epa.gov

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**From:** Jasena Jackson [mailto:jasenajackson[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 22, 2017 9:48 AM  
**To:** Pruitt, Scott <Pruitt.Scott@epa.gov>; LeeCHDFeedback@flhealth.gov; SouthDistrict@dep.state.fl.us; jon.iglehart@dep.state.fl.us  
**Subject:** Effects of Dumping of Sludge in Dunbar Community by the City of Fort Myers, FL

Good Morning,

My name is Jasena Pearsey. I reside in the Fort Myers, FL (Lehigh Acres) area.

(b) (6) [REDACTED]

Just recently, it came to my attention that the City of Fort Myers began dumping sludge back in 1962 into an area that was once a pond. This area over the years became a residential community where people built homes and children play, etc. The sludge contained high levels out of the norm of arsenic. The City was advised to rectify the situation by the DEP, but failed to do so. Nevertheless, high levels of arsenic is one (1) of the main factors of causing Cancer. I would like to know if there is something that can be done as the following:

1. Can the DEP/EPA send out a team to come and assess the grounds where the dumping took place? For example: test the waters of the nearby areas (including my parents). Who would foot the cost of this?
2. Can someone look to determine as to indicate who is responsible for following up when a governmental agency does not respond to a request by the DEP?
3. Could the team, if one (1) is sent submit an expert who can present a CV (Curriculum Vitae)?

One (1) of my main concerns is that this dumping took place, there were indications of levels out of the ordinary and nothing was done. Also, this community has been having commercial companies building nearby, what effect can their products cause within the community which the majority is of the minority?

If someone could please respond to my question in a timely fashion, I would greatly appreciate it. Meanwhile, I am scheduled to meet with a representative and a report who would like to get more information on this matter.

Should you feel the need to speak with me directly, my phone number is (239) 410-4900. Thank you.

*Sincerely,*

**Jasena Pearsey**



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUL 13 2017

Ms. Jasena Pearsey

(b) (6)

Dear Ms. Pearsey:

Thank you for your June 22, 2017, electronic message to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, concerning the disposal of arsenic contaminated sludge on a property (the property) in the Dunbar Community in the City of Fort Myers (the City). Your message was forwarded to the EPA Region 4 office in Atlanta, Georgia, for response.

Your message was reviewed by Mr. Humberto Guzman in the Water Protection Division. He spoke to you by telephone on July 6, 2017, about your concerns and what assistance the EPA could provide. Mr. Guzman also spoke to Ms. Jennifer Carpenter, Assistant Director, of the South District Office of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FL DEP). We understand that the City of Fort Myers will be conducting a site assessment of the property, with oversight from the FL DEP. The site assessment will include soil and groundwater testing. The City will ask the public to comment on their work plan, and they will also conduct a public meeting to explain their work plan. Since the FL DEP will be overseeing the work conducted by the City, Ms. Carpenter will be your point of contact and can be reached at (239) 344-5676.

We appreciate your desire to protect and preserve the environment and hope that you find this information helpful. If we may be of further assistance, please contact Mr. Humberto Guzman at (404) 562-8942.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Walker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mary S. Walker  
Director  
Water Protection Division

cc: Jennifer Carpenter, FL DEP  
EPA Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations  
EPA Office of Water -Immediate Office